



# THE GALLUP ORGANIZATION

PRINCETON

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June 28, 2000

John H. Thompson  
Associate Director for Decennial Census  
Bureau of the Census, Building 2, Room 3586  
Suitland and Silver Hill Roads  
Suitland, Maryland 20233

Re: Comment letter regarding Secretary of Commerce's proposed rule

Dear Mr. Thompson:

I am writing in response to the "Request for Comments on the Proposed Rule" published in the Federal Register on June 20, 2000, by corrected data file for Census 2000. The Secretary of Commerce has wisely determined that the best people to make such a decision are at the Census Bureau. The proposed rule delegates to the Director the authority to make the decision on the release of the corrected data after receiving a report from a team of statistical experts from the Bureau. This team is made up of outstanding researchers and scientists who have spent years doing research on the use of statistical methods to increase the accuracy of the Census.

The proposed procedure for delegating the decision on the release of the corrected data for Census 2000 to the Director of the Census Bureau, upon the recommendation of the professional staff, removes the hands of politics from what should be a scientific decision. The Director of the Census Bureau and the statistical experts at the Bureau are the scientists best qualified to make the decision. I heartily support the Secretary of Commerce in his proposal to set forth a fair and unbiased procedure for making such an important decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Max D. Larsen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Max D. Larsen, Ph.D.  
Senior Vice President